

EXHIBIT 2: Letters of Support

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CHAIR
BUDGET & FISCAL REVIEW
SUBCOMMITTEE #2 CHAIR
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ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION
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STATE CAPITOL ROOM 5100
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
TEL (916) 443-3373
FAX (916) 555-6958

California State Senate

SENATOR
WESLEY CHESBRO
SECOND SENATORIAL DISTRICT



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JOINT COMMITTEES
JOINT COMMITTEE ON
LEGISLATIVE BUDGET

November 26, 2003

Mr. Paul Morabito, Chairman
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Chairman Morabito:

I am writing to you to offer my strong support for the Noyo River Watershed Enhancement Plan (NRWEP) proposed by Trout Unlimited and the Noyo Watershed Alliance. Over 30 diverse interests have been working on and promoting a non-regulatory, cooperative approach that will lead to a comprehensive plan and provide education to a broader segment of the community. The NRWEP and its implementation will benefit the environment, local community and economy along this stretch of the Mendocino Coast and possibly in other areas of California as an educational tool and cooperative approach to local issues.

The NRWEP will address watershed restoration that can benefit the fisheries, water quality, and the people of the watershed. Specifically, the Plan will identify key restoration projects and will include timelines and cost estimates. Additionally, the Plan will collect ongoing watershed information and will be a useful guide for stakeholders including watershed residents, local, state, and federal agencies, city and harbor representatives and other interested groups. A successful watershed enhancement plan is one that will be embraced by many stakeholders, and that can serve as a blueprint for restoration activities.

The NRWEP will provide the framework for a long-term, comprehensive restoration effort in the Noyo River Watershed. The implementation of identified restoration projects may provide a greater opportunity for receiving grant funds in this time of limited funding.

I appreciate your support and look forward toward working together on this community based, watershed focused effort.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wesley Chesbro".

WESLEY CHESBRO
State Senator, 2nd District

WC:bf

cc: Mr. Michael Bowen, California Coastal Conservancy,
Trout Unlimited
Noyo Watershed Alliance, c/o Michele White

444 GEORGIA STREET
VALLEJO, CA 94590
TEL (707) 646-2312
FAX (707) 646-2352

1040 MAIN STREET, SUITE 100
SANTA ROSA, CA 95404
TEL (707) 576-2777
FAX (707) 576-2773

1040 MAIN STREET, SUITE 150
EUREKA, CA 95501
TEL (707) 443-6208
FAX (707) 443-6511

1040 MAIN STREET, SUITE 205
NAPA, CA 94559
TEL (707) 224-1990
FAX (707) 224-1992

P.O. BOX 785
UNION, CA 95401
TEL (707) 468-8914
FAX (707) 468-8931

11/26/03 11:00 AM

EXHIBIT 2: Letters of Support

United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service
Ukiah Service Center
405 So. Orchard Ave.
Ukiah, CA 95482
Phone: 707-468-9223 ext.3
Fax : 707-468-5278

Mr. Paul Morabito, Chair
California State Coastal Conservancy
11th Floor, 1330 Broadway
Oakland, CA 94612

February 11, 2004

Dear Mr. Morabito,

I am writing to express my support for the Noyo River Watershed Enhancement Plan proposal being submitted for your consideration by the Noyo Watershed Alliance (NWA) and Trout Unlimited (TU). The Noyo watershed has experienced substantial environmental impacts from historical logging and road development over the last 100 years. It currently is listed as an impaired water body for sediment by the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board. The Noyo River is also home to several species of anadromous fish currently listed as either threatened or endangered under both Federal and State Endangered Species Act laws. The community of Fort Bragg, especially the harbor area, is intimately bound to the health and recovery of the natural resources of this watershed. The Noyo Watershed Alliance is a group of committed landowners and interested community members who have banded together to address sediment and fishery habitat problems in the Noyo. For the last couple of years they have regularly met to share their knowledge of the resource issues facing the Noyo. They have sponsored several community outreach events and have invited a wide variety of Federal, State and local agencies and private non-profit groups like Trout Unlimited to assist them in efforts to restore the watershed. Although a few of the landowners have completed some level of watershed or habitat assessment on their own property, to date no one has synthesized the information to portray the overall "state of the watershed " that includes areas that have not been assessed. The proposal before you would fill in these critical missing pieces to form a truly watershed wide perspective and help to specifically prioritize the most effective sediment reduction and habitat improvement treatments that would result in a positive environmental change.

I hope that you'll give strong consideration and support for this project to restore one of the most important coastal watersheds in Mendocino County- the Noyo River.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Tom Schott".

Tom Schott
District Conservationist

Cc: Michael Bowen(SCC), David Katz(TU), Rob Dickerson(TU), Michelle White(NWA)

The Natural Resources Conservation Service provides leadership in a partnership effort to help people conserve, maintain, and improve our natural resources and environment.

EXHIBIT 2: Letters of Support



Terry Tamminen
Secretary for
Environmental
Protection

California Regional Water Quality Control Board North Coast Region William R. Massey, Chairman

<http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb1/>
5550 Skylane Boulevard, Suite A, Santa Rosa, California 95403
Phone: 1 (877) 721-9203 (toll free) • Office: (707) 576-2220 • FAX: (707) 523-0135



Arnold
Schwarzenegger
Governor

November 24, 2003

Mr. Paul Morabito
Chairman
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Morabito:

Subject: Letter of support for the TU/NWA Noyo River Watershed Enhancement Plan

File: Noyo River, Noyo Watershed Alliance

The purpose of this letter is to express support for the Noyo River Watershed Enhancement Plan developed by the Noyo Watershed Alliance and Trout Unlimited. In part, the Noyo River Watershed Enhancement Plan (the Plan) will identify key restoration projects, prioritize the projects, develop timelines, and include cost estimates. The restoration projects are intended to benefit the fisheries, water quality, and people of the Noyo River Watershed. Additionally, the Plan will be developed through a process of community education, outreach, and input.

Staff of the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) support the Plan for several reasons. First, it is likely that many of the restoration projects identified by the Plan will be existing and/or potential sources of sediment discharges to the Noyo River and its tributaries. The identification of sediment sources will be an aid to the implementation plan for the Noyo River Sediment Total Maximum Daily Load. Additionally, identification of sediment sources is necessary before the implementation of restoration projects, which will enhance water quality. Second, the Noyo Watershed Alliance and Trout Unlimited is more likely to receiving grant funds from the Regional Water Board for the implementation of identified restoration projects once the Plan is completed. Third, the Plan will increase awareness in the Noyo River Watershed of water quality, beneficial uses of the Noyo River including the salmonid fishery, sediment impairment, and the importance of sediment and erosion control. The ability of the Noyo Watershed Alliance and the Trout Unlimited to do this through a non-regulatory, cooperative approach is an additional bonus that may result in educating a broader segment of the community.

California Environmental Protection Agency

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EXHIBIT 2: Letters of Support

Mr. Paul Morabito

-2-

November 24, 2003

To conclude, Regional Water Board staff support the Noyo River Watershed Enhancement Plan because it will be a step toward reducing the sediment load of the Noyo River and its tributary streams. Please contact me at (707) 576-2650 or fitzr@rb1.swrcb.ca.gov if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Rebecca Fitzgerald
Environmental Scientist

RMF:tab/nwaenhancementplan.doc

cc: Mr. Michael Bowen, California Coastal Conservancy, 1330 Broadway, 11th Floor,
Oakland, CA, 94612

Trout Unlimited, 1120 College Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA, 95404

Noyo Watershed Alliance, c/o Ms. Michele White, P.O. Box 764, Fort Bragg, CA,
95437

California Environmental Protection Agency

Recycled Paper

EXHIBIT 2: Letters of Support

STATE OF CALIFORNIA-THE RESOURCES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION
Mendocino Ranger Unit
17501 North Highway 101
Willits, CA 95490
(707) 459-7414

Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor

Date: November 26, 2003
Ref: TU/NWA Noyo Watershed
Enhancement Plan

Mr. Paul Morabito, Chairman
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Morabito:

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection would like to recommend funding for a Noyo River Watershed enhancement plan. The Department manages the 50,000-acre Jackson Demonstration State Forest, much of which is located within the Noyo River watershed. The Forest is a founding member of the Noyo River Watershed Alliance. The membership of the Alliance has been meeting regularly and working to improve habitat conditions for anadromous fishes within the watershed. The Alliance membership includes the major landowners within the watershed, each of which is extremely interested in promoting good land stewardship, improved management methods, and in conducting habitat restoration.

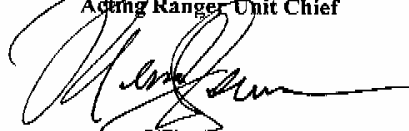
The knowledgeable people of Trout Unlimited are in a position to augment the effectiveness of the Noyo Watershed Alliance by providing direct assistance in the development of a watershed enhancement plan. This group has demonstrated high levels of both enthusiasm and technical expertise that promises to mesh well with the goals of the Alliance.

The Noyo River watershed is unique in many ways. Firstly, it supports one of the best remaining coho fisheries in the region. Secondly, the watershed supports a vast array of landowners and land uses, from timber to range, rural residential, a fishing harbor, a railroad, and tourism. As a member of the Noyo Watershed Alliance, we are hopeful and confident that a watershed enhancement plan will help bring landowners, land managers, user groups, and the general public together, so that watershed conditions can be improved for all. It is unusual to see the level of cooperation that exists within the Noyo Watershed Alliance. This will make it much more likely that efforts are coordinated and that good progress is made. We understand that it will take sustained effort on everyone's part to make this work.

Development of an enhancement plan is a first step towards direct habitat improvement. Our efforts must be coordinated and prioritized in order to make efficient use of limited funds, and to have the greatest potential for success. The major landowners within the watershed have demonstrated a commitment to this effort, and can lend a considerable level of support to the eventual implementation of the enhancement plan.

It is our sincere hope that the Conservancy will see fit to support the development of a watershed enhancement plan for the Noyo River watershed. The membership of the Noyo Watershed Alliance, along with our partners, will see to it that the plan is implemented in a coordinated and effective manner.

Loyde Johnson
Acting Ranger Unit Chief



by Marc J. Jameson
State Forest Manager

cc. Mr. Michael Bowen
NWA, Fort Bragg
Trout Unlimited, Santa Rosa

EXHIBIT 2: Letters of Support

State of California

Memorandum

To : Paul Morabito, Chair
State Coastal Conservancy Board
1300 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

Date: November 26, 2003

COPY - ORIGINAL SIGNED BY
ROBERT W. FLOERKE

From : Robert W. Floerke, Regional Manager
Department of Fish and Game - Central Coast Region, Post Office Box 47, Yountville, California 94599

Subject: Support of Trout Unlimited/Noyo Watershed Alliance,
Noyo Watershed Enhancement Plan

The dependence of both people and biota on the health of the Noyo River Watershed, Mendocino County, has brought diverse interests together to propose a Watershed Enhancement Plan to help guide restoration of the river. The Noyo River watershed encompasses many of the natural resource and economic issues found in California coastal river systems. Beginning in rugged forested terrain, the Noyo River flows through managed commercial timberland, youth camps, and small private land holdings, entering the Pacific Ocean at Noyo Harbor, a significant commercial and sport fishing port. The Noyo River supports runs of steelhead trout and coho salmon which have declined in past decades due to numerous causes including land use practices. The Noyo River also provides a municipal water supply to the City of Fort Bragg.

The proposed Noyo Watershed Enhancement Plan will identify key watershed restoration projects including timelines and cost estimates. Additionally, the Plan will be a useful guide by providing ongoing watershed information to residents; local, State, and Federal agencies; city and harbor representatives; and other interested groups. The Plan will provide information that will help guide cost-effective funding for restoration projects of the Department of Fish and Game and the State Coastal Conservancy.

We support the funding request for the Noyo Watershed Enhancement Plan. If you have any questions regarding our comments, please contact Doug Albin, Associate Fisheries Biologist, at (707) 964-7683; or Bob Coey, Senior Fisheries Biologist, at (707) 944-5582.

DA/ar

e[]: Coey, Albin

EXHIBIT 2: Letters of Support



32600 Holquist Lane • P.O. Box 489 • Fort Bragg • CA • 95437 • (707)962-2800 • Fax (707)964-8828

Mr. Paul Morabito, Chairman,
California Coastal Conservancy,
11th Floor, 1330 Broadway,
Oakland CA 94612

Subject: Funding of the Enhancement Plan for the Noyo River Watershed

Dear Mr. Morabito,

This letter is in regards to the request for funding of the Enhancement Plan for the Noyo River Watershed. The project is being applied for and would be administered by the conservation group, Trout Unlimited. Mendocino Redwood Company (MRC) is in support of development of the plan.

MRC is the owner of close to 20,000 acres of redwood forestlands in the Noyo drainage. Having owned and operated the property since 1998, MRC has adopted a direction of forest management that can best be termed restoration forestry. MRC has taken the time to develop a harvest schedule that will double the standing timber inventory over time. The Company has implemented a Watershed Analysis review to determine the health of the streams within the ownership. The Analysis provides for upslope and instream mitigation measures for streams that may be impaired. From the date of acquisition, MRC has completed \$955,000 in sedimentation reduction projects in the Noyo drainage.

Mendocino Redwood Company is an active member of the Noyo Watershed Alliance and would participate in review of the plan. We strongly encourage the Coastal Conservancy to partner with us and approve the requested funds. This completed plan would be a step forward towards achieving our goal of forest and stream restoration.

Thank you for your consideration

Sincerely


Thomas E. Schultz
Timberlands Manager

Cc: Trout Unlimited
Michael Bowen
NWA

EXHIBIT 2: Letters of Support

29863 Madsen Lane
Fort Bragg, CA 95437

November 13, 2003

Mr. Paul Morabito, Chairman
California Coastal Conservancy

Dear Mr. Morabito,

As the "conservation" member of the Noyo Watershed Alliance, I am writing to solicit the Coastal Conservancy's support of the Noyo River Watershed Enhancement Plan, proposed by the Noyo Watershed Alliance and Trout Unlimited.

The Noyo watershed is somewhat unique, in that it encompasses nearly all land use and economic interests typical of California's north coast. Its 106 square mile drainage basin is primarily owned by two timber companies that have inherited the results of land use practices deleterious to the basin from their predecessors. The companies are presently trying to balance economic sustainability with improvement of land surface and stream conditions that rehabilitate avian and anadromous fish habitats. A third major land occupier is the Jackson Demonstration State Forest which is attempting to balance timber production with habitat restoration and public recreation.

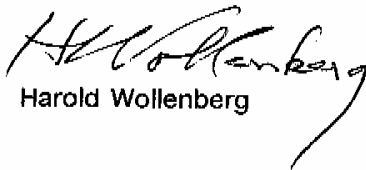
With several other north coast streams, the Noyo River is listed as impaired by excessive sediment, primarily due to historic timber harvesting practices, including the effects of their appurtenant roads.

The Noyo River watershed provides the principal source of water for the city of Fort Bragg, and the harbor at the river mouth serves the commercial and recreational fishing industries.

The proposed Enhancement Plan, supported by the vast majority of the people of this coastal community, will address restoration of the Noyo watershed that will benefit all parties, animal and human. In this respect, private citizens, commercial interests, municipalities, and county and state agencies will all participate in the development of the plan and ultimately, its implementation.

As a geologist, land owner, avid kayaker, and as a nearby resident who relies on the well being and vitality of Fort Bragg, I urge the Conservancy to support the development of this important Enhancement Plan.

Sincerely,


Harold Wollenberg

C.C.